

ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023



Carnarvon Rangelands
CRBA
Biosecurity Association Inc.

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1. INTRODUCTION

About the Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association

The CRBA is a not-for-profit association formed under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015*, providing declared pest control services for land managers throughout the Shires of Shark Bay, Carnarvon, Exmouth, Murchison, and Upper Gascoyne with additional pastoral leases in the Shire of Northampton and City of Greater Geraldton (locality of Mullewa). The association's primary purpose is the control of declared pests using funding from Declared Pest Rates paid by landholders on pastoral stations. These Declared Pest Rates funds are matched dollar for dollar by the WA Government to reflect the public benefit of controlling declared pest animals and weeds. The association is formally recognised by the Hon Minister for Agriculture and Food as a recognised biosecurity group (RBG).

The association is managed by a committee of counters who spend a considerable amount of their time managing the operations and compliances of the CRBA on an annual basis.

Committee of management members (as of 30 June 2023)

Position	Name	Member Station/organisation	Term Expiry
Chair	Ross Collins	Glenburgh Station <i>(Upper Gascoyne)</i>	30 October 2024
Vice-Chair	Alister Gordan	Cooralya Station <i>(Carnarvon)</i>	30 October 2024
Secretary / Treasurer	Andrew Whitmarsh	Byro Station <i>(Murchison)</i>	30 October 2024
Member	Harry McKeogh	Carey Downs Station <i>(Upper Gascoyne)</i>	29 October 2025
Member	Roger Davies	Eudamullah Station <i>(Upper Gascoyne)</i>	28 October 2026
Member	Greydon Mead	Bullardoo Station <i>(Murchison)</i>	30 October 2024
Member	Tim Shallcross	Bullara Station <i>(Exmouth)</i>	28 October 2026
Member	Simon Thomas	Marron Station <i>(Carnarvon)</i>	28 October 2026
Member	Ray Hoseason-Smith	Dairy Creek Station <i>(Upper Gascoyne)</i>	28 October 2026
Member	Gina McGee	Minilya Station <i>(Carnarvon)</i>	28 October 2026
Associate Member	Gavan Mullan	Dept Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)	30 October 2024

The CRBA works with local people who hold local knowledge of the region's problem pests. Utilising this local landscape understanding to form the basis of our annual operations each year.

How the group is funded

The primary funding for the association comes from Declared Pest Rates (DPR) paid by pastoral leaseholders, which are matched equally by the State Government. In this financial year, we have also received supplementary income from the Wild Dog Action Plan (WDAP), with this funding secured through 2024/25, and funding from Rangelands NRM (RNRM).

Furthermore, the Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association has obtained funds from the Upper Gascoyne and Murchison Shires to support additional operations within those shire areas. We have also received a modest amount of funding from our contributions to small research programs, as well as the annual transfer of DPA for a pastoral property we service.

The CRBA is bound by specific responsibilities outlined in section 170 of the BAM Act regarding the transfer of funds from the Declared Pest Account. Occasionally, we also attract funds from other sources, such as Federal and State Governments. However, acquiring additional funding has become more challenging, limiting some programs that are not the primary focus of concern for our members.

Through the robust RBG funding model, local individuals are effectively managing the state's declared pest to the best of our abilities within the financial limitations. The RBG model builds upon the efforts already made by leaseholders in our region.

2. CRBA AIMS AND AREA OF OPERATIONS

Aims

The Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association (CRBA) aligned its aims directly to its objects in the group's constitution. These are:

- Foster the *control of declared pests* throughout the Area, via the formulation, implementation, and review of appropriate *management plans* and programs.
- Encourage *integration, coordination, and general collaboration* of all Area stakeholders in pest management matters.
- Promote the adoption of *sound biosecurity practices* throughout the Area.

High-priority declared pests

Wild dogs - continue to have a major impact across the region, particularly in areas boarding Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) and Reserves/National Parks and Exclusive Native Title properties and those properties in the north of the CRBA region.

There has continued to be an increase in numbers across the region with a higher number of reported sightings stock losses, and damage. Numbers controlled by Licensed Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs) and landholders have increased this year with some regions being significantly impacted. Whilst stock losses and complaints are down this year, they remain high in the south of the region, this is in part due to the Carnarvon Rangelands Barrier Fence remaining incomplete and the continued lack of access to large tracks of land previously under the management of Department of Biodiversity, Conservation, and Attractions.

Weeds of National Significance (WONS) including Mesquite and Parkinsonia - There are currently twelve pastoral leases, two areas of UCL, and a reserve around Carnarvon townsite with known infestations. These infestations are mostly found along the Gascoyne, Lyons, and Murchison Rivers.

After 3 years of control, the CRBA provided landholders with details on previous control and has started planning to work with them to undertake some supported spraying during 2023/24.

LPMTs and landholders continue to monitor those areas of control, along with reporting new infestations that are found through the CRBA region.

Large Feral Herbivores (LFH) including Donkeys and Camels – whilst we still experience incursions on the region, after several years of focused and regular control their populations have been managed across areas of concern in the Shires of Carnarvon, Murchison, and Upper Gascoyne. At present they are found on approximately thirty-one pastoral leases, Exclusive Native Title properties, and DBCA-managed land within our region. LFH has been sighted as far south as the Murchison Region Vermin Cell (MRVC) fence.

Coral Coast Cactus – continues to be a weed that pastoralists and Licensed Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs) around the region are finding. The CRBA is lucky that several known large infestations had considerable work undertaken by the Lyndon LCDC and are now a source of the biological control (cochineal) which is being used to treat new infestations as we become aware.

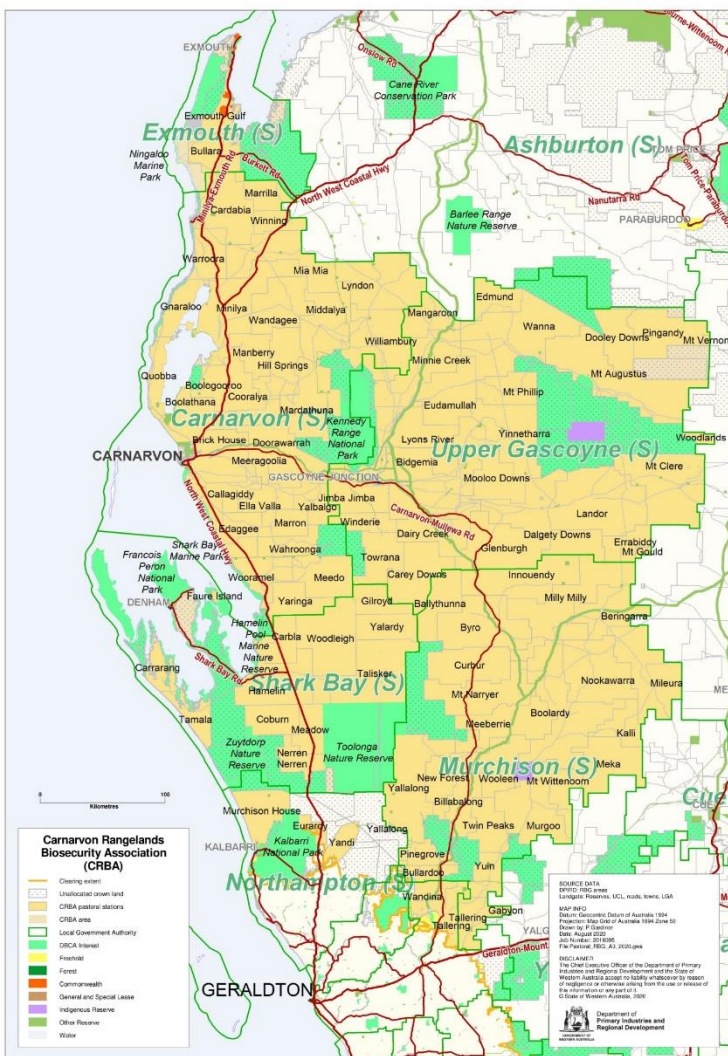
Area of operation

The CRBA area of operation takes in the Shires of Carnarvon, Exmouth, Shark Bay, Murchison, and Upper Gascoyne. Along with additional pastoral properties below the state barrier fence within the Shire of Northampton and the City of Greater Geraldton (locality of Mullewa) that also form part of the CRBA area of operation. There are over 90 pastoral leases with around 20% being small stock-carrying properties; multiple Exclusive Native Title properties, making up approximately 7.5% (more than 1 million hectares) and approximately 21% of the land that is under the control of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation, and Attractions (DBCA).

The population of the CRBA area is approximately 9,500, with this number and numbers across the CRBA region increasing exponentially during the tourism season. Our largest town is Carnarvon, with a population of approximately 5,500 residents. Carnarvon is the regional service centre for the whole Gascoyne-Murchison area.

The CRBA region includes the Shark Bay & Ningaloo World Heritage Areas; Cape Range National Park, Mount Augustus and Kennedy Ranges National Parks, multiple nature reserves, and former pastoral leasehold properties. The types of land tenures and access to them continue to change annually, with the CRBA working closely with the three DBCA regional offices that are responsible for the management of these and other such properties within our region.

The CRBA shares its northern boundary with the Pilbara Regional Biosecurity Group (PRBG), the eastern boundary with the Meekatharra Rangelands Biosecurity Association (MRBA), and the southern boundary Northern Agricultural Region, not under the newly formed Northern Biosecurity Group (NBG) which includes Kalbarri National Park and unallocated Crown Land (UCL).



3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In the year 2023/23, positive outcomes emerged throughout the CRBA region, shown by a reduction in landholder complaints and reported stock losses. Our Licensed Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs) have remained dedicated to tackling the wild dog issue in their respective territories. They have undertaken this alongside monitoring other pests and quickly reporting any new pest animal weed findings encountered during their travels.

The year also marked the commencement of the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management (BAM) Act review, with Phases 1, 2, and 3 unfolding over the course of the year. While the exact count of submissions from Phase 1 in the CRBA region remains uncertain, the Phase 2 public consultation sessions held in Carnarvon and Perth gathered substantial attendance by CRBA members. Thank you to the landholders who made the effort to participate, highlighting their valuable input.

The timing of Phase 3 submissions was challenging, with the implementation of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Act and the close of the financial year by 30 June 2023. Thanks to Krystie Bremer, the CRBA Executive Officer, who collaboratively undertook a combined submission with other RBGs, invested considerable time in discussions, engaged with the BAM Act Review chair, and masterminded a CRBA letter outlining landholders' concerns with the final report.

The path is unclear until the review is finished and the report is presented to the Minister. We have been made aware of a delay in the final report outlining consultation feedback, with this not anticipated early 2024. The CRBA Executive and Executive Officer are resolute in their commitment to work together with DPIRD to safeguard the group's operational stability throughout this extended process, anticipated to span another three years.

The CRBA received confirmation of two additional years of funding from the State's Wild Dog Action Plan (WDAP) for 2022/23 and 2023/24. This financial certainty strengthens the group as it aligns with the department's efforts in getting together the third plan. The PGA and RBGs have together proposed the revival of a State Wild Dog Advisory Group to secure industry input in forming the third plan.

Celebrating accomplishments over the past year, the group maintained administrative and overhead expenses at 10.99%, channelling 90% of resources into program delivery and on-ground activities. All administrative expenses associated with the CRBA are met by the DPR, with supplementary funds dedicated entirely to program delivery. A promising DPR payment rate of 90.31% for 2022/23 highlights good outcomes for both the group and the broader region.

Addressing the region's pest management aim, the CRBA committee spearheaded various key initiatives, including a region-wide community baiting program, aerial baiting efforts across Kennedy Range National Park funded by DBCA, coordinated aerial baiting across a private pastoral estate spanning over 1 million acres, LFH control initiatives spanning the northern region with support from Rangelands NRM, collaboration with DBCA to increase access for on-ground projects in the Kennedy Ranges vicinity, and sustained financial backing from the Shires of Upper Gascoyne and Murchison, alongside Rangelands NRM.

Amid the challenges faced in the declared pest space and the broader pastoral sector, the committee is devoted of optimal outcomes in managing declared pests across the region. With a proactive approach, the committee remains well placed to navigate the growing requirements of operating an RBG while upholding the delivery of key programs into the future.

In conclusion, acknowledgments are extended to several individuals. Outgoing chair Justin Steadman's dedication and commitment to the CRBA over eight years are recognised and appreciated. Likewise, thanks are extended to Tim Higham, outgoing Vice Chair, for his eight years of support and continued volunteer contributions as LPMT Coordinator.. Thanks to Allan Straw, who concluded his tenure with the group in December 2022, having contributed significantly during his time.

Special appreciation is reserved for the dedicated group of volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes, alongside the Executive Officer Krystie Bremer, which I would extent a special thanks for always going the extra mile ensuring of the seamless functioning of the group. The LPMTs also warrant commendation for their ongoing dedication across the region.

The forthcoming year holds promise as the committee embarks on delivering the 2023/24 Operational Plan and initiates the groundwork for the 2024/25 plan.



Ross Collins

CHAIRPERSON

Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association Inc.

4. CRBA OPERATIONS 2022/2023

The CRBA has a Declared Pest Account into which the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) is responsible, via the Office of State Revenue (OSR) to issue rates notices annually to all pastoral leases within the CRBA region. DPIRD then provides the CRBA with the Government's matching dollar-for-dollar contribution. One of the biggest benefits of the RBG model is that it is funded 50% by leaseholders and 50% by the State, recognising their obligation as landowners within the CRBA region.

Available funding for 2022/23 was significantly impacted by the issues in 2019 around pastoral land values, with the CRBA relying immediately following this even on reserves and carryover funds to maintain basic operations.

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) advised during 2022/23 that funding for the WA Wild Dog Action Plan (WDAP) would be secure through 2024/25. This announcement recognised the State's obligation to manage biosecurity on vast lands they manage within our region. The CRBA is hopeful that DPIRD will work with RBGs as it moves to put together the next five-year plan and that the State will continue to provide ongoing support to the region's agriculture industry, recognising that work undertaken outside of the State barrier fence provides an additional buffer layer to the south of the state.

The CRBA Executive Officer (EO) continues to be an integral part of ensuring the CRBA meets its obligations. Our EO continues to spend considerable time dealing with the increasing pressure put on the volunteer committee by DPIRD and also spends considerable time trying to resolve many issues that arise throughout the year relating to things such as DBCA access; Restricted Chemical Permits (RCPS), management of the Declared Pest Account funds and the monitoring and reporting requirements.

Wild Dog Control

Declared Pest Account Program activities and expenditures included:

- One community-wide baiting program;
- One aerial baiting program, coordinated with DBCA in the Kennedy Range National Park, with DBCA funding the cost of baits and planes, and the CRBA providing the LPMT bombardier;
- Contracting Licenced Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs) for local wild dog trapping, baiting and shooting functions.

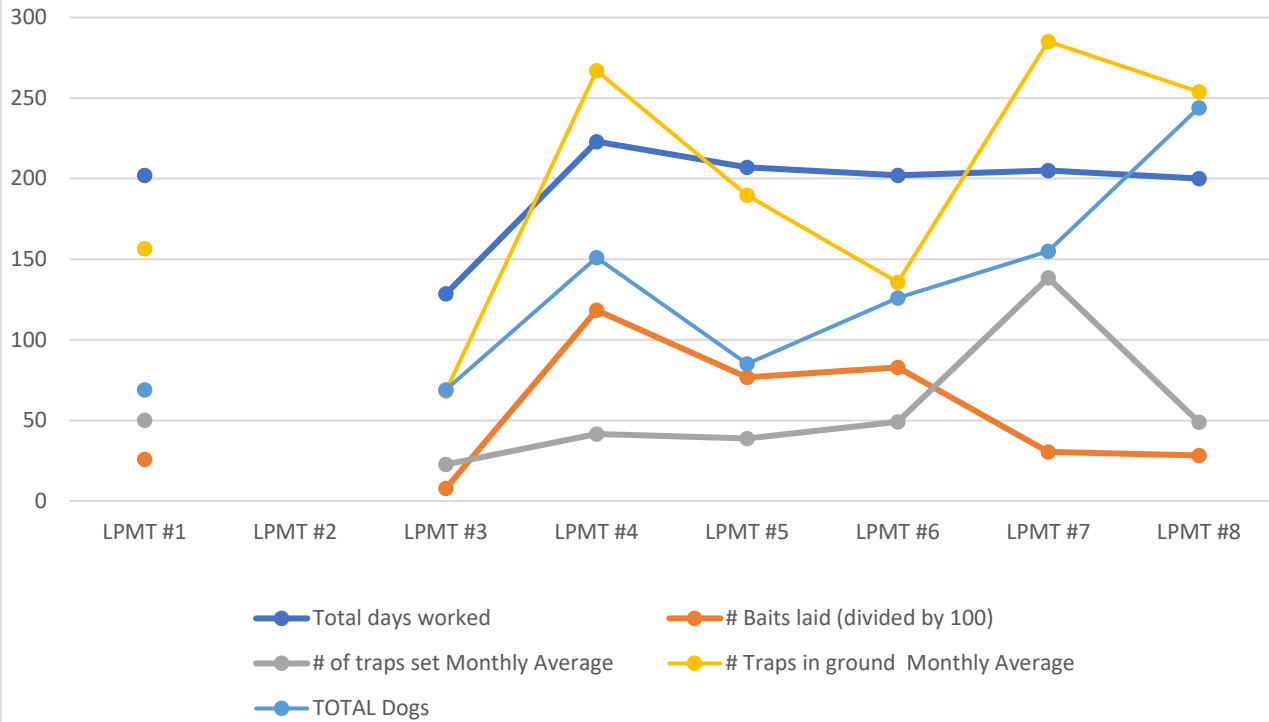
LPMT Summary

Contains combined figures from 7 CRBA contracted LPMTs:

Total days worked	1 367.5
Number of baits laid	37 061
Number of traps set	2 340
Number of dogs destroyed - Shot	80
Number of dogs destroyed - Trapped	812
Number of dogs destroyed - Other	7
Number of reported small stock kills by wild dogs #	45
Number of reported wild dog complaints by landowners #	32

The CRBA thinks that operations undertaken across our region play a key role in minimising the risk to the State's agricultural region. The CRBA committee believes a key to our success in the management of wild dogs comes from region-wide engagement of LPMTs, alongside land manager control.

2022/2023



CRBA LPMT Accumulative Data

	LPMT #s	Total days worked	# of baits laid	# of baits made	# of traps set	# of traps in ground at EOM	Wild Dogs Destroyed				Wild Dogs	
							Shot	Trapped	DNA Samples	Other (Pups)	Damaged Stock	Complaints
2015/2016 *	3^	357	9359	6244	1160		2	53			61	24
2016/2017 *	6	995	51376	27753	2958		16	254		11	90	76
2017/2018 *	6	1029	28125	7144	2213		21	236		3	73	57
2018/2019 **	8	1511.5	52201	37842	2920	4200	81	489		23	65	
2019/2020 **	8	1078.5	36269	17739	1281	4298	19	374		24	32	56
2020/2021	8	1469.5	35032	34707	1843	5957	48	464	91	22	6	43
2021/2022	8	1516.5	50371	46928	2397	7140	92	726	216	38	295	66
2022/2023	7	1367.5	37061	19417	2340	8138	80	812	0	7	44	32
Annual Totals		7972.5	239059	163777	12994	29733	341	3101	307	117	515	254
								3442		3559		

NOTES: Unable to confirm data, due to limited electronic data/recording and different recording methods used

^ Only able to find reliable data for 3 LPMTs, although more contracted

* Excludes SUG data ** Limited SUG data

Observed significant jump due to the funnel created by the CRBF cell fence in south Carnarvon

The CRBA relies heavily on pastoral leaseholders playing active roles in the management of declared pests and plants on their stations. The group continues to rely on its members and key stakeholders to participate in preparing wild dog meat baits at Community Baiting Events, distribute dried prepared baits across their properties, trap/shoot wild dogs, and also show interest in and support the LPMTs that operate on their properties.

Whilst the days worked by our LPMTs decreased during this financial year, the number of wild dogs observed increased. This is a concerning trend impacting not only pastoral landholders but the other land users and stakeholders across the CRBA region. In addition to the work undertaken by our LPMTs, landholders reported controlling **74** wild dogs throughout the year.

Landowners within the CRBA area consistently go above and beyond by contributing beyond their declared pest rate payments. These landholders participate by supplying meat for baits, creating and dispersing baits on their properties, implementing various control measures, offering rewards for wild dog management, and even independently hiring LPMTs for extra control efforts.

The CRBA would also like to recognise the Shire of Murchison which continues to actively encourage people within their Shire to control dogs via internal initiatives. From their records, **59** wild dogs have been controlled throughout the year.

The wild dog program undertaken by the CRBA also sees the known control of **6** foxes and **70** feral cats.

Whilst feral cats are not a declared pest the number of sightings and reports have increased to a significantly concerning level across the entire CRBA region.

Large Feral Herbivore Control

The CRBA relies heavily on additional funding received to undertake control of these pests due to the financial restraints, how widespread they are in the region, and funds being expensed on priority pests. That said control through 'soft money' in 2022/23 has seen a significant number of animals controlled across the region (reported under project summaries).

Effective methods of control of LFH come at a high cost and require significant planning to ensure they're run efficiently. Through outside funding since 2018 the CRBA has had a notable impact on known LFH locations within our region and we are thankful for the support received from our partnership with Rangelands NRM during 2022/23.

Along with these programs landholders have controlled a total of **129** and LPMTs **72** LFH. With the Shire of Murchison reporting control of **54** LFH.

Declared Weed Control

After 3 years of focused work on Mesquite and Parkinsonia, the CRBA provided each of its land managers with details relating to their infestations. Given budget constraints the CRBA is working towards sourcing funding for future ongoing controls, with plans for 2023/24 being put in place to work with land managers, providing training and chemicals to undertake their spraying programs.

Reports on the Coral Coast Cactus across the region show that the biological control has worked well where it has been placed, with new LPMTs working to utilise control in new locations as they are reported/identified.

Feral Pigs

During 2022/23 CRBA LPMTs actively undertook monitoring in known feral pig locations to monitor Movements, numbers, and the need for future control. A small group was discovered in December 2022, unfortunately, due to a change in ownership and access issues control programs could not be undertaken. Planning to engage with all landholders and for a control program is in place for 2023/24. During 2022/23 **1** feral pig was controlled by our LPMTs, in a previously known hotspot.

Volunteer Summary

The CRBA counts on the local knowledge of our volunteers and members to manage declared pests across our vast landscape. The CRBA committee estimates that our volunteers contribute upwards of 3,000 hours each year to the group and its operations, a value of more than \$200,000 in-kind. The CRBA depends on volunteers within the community to assist with various roles/activities that are required to ensure the smooth running of our operation.

These roles include:

- Participation on the Management Committee;
- Attendance and participation in meetings with outside stakeholders;
- Review of vast correspondence received by the CRBA;
- Time and fuel commitments by members to attend training days, workshops, industry and government meetings, and liaisons. Given the vast area the CRBA covers this is a big commitment by our committee with often more than 600km round trips required to attend face-to-face meetings.;
- Local Rack Coordinators – who coordinate local pastoralists to attend bait preparations racks to inject, dry, and bag meat baits ready for baiting programs;
- LPMT Coordinators – local pastoralists who are responsible for supervising and guiding local LPMTs who operate across a defined network of pastoral properties. Coordinators are also involved in contract reviews and reviews of monthly reports and invoices before payment;
- Assistance with wild dog baiting programs, including helping with loading baits and providing fuel into the contracted charter plane, as well as taking on the roles of navigator and/or bombardier during aerial baiting flights to ensure baits are dropped in areas of need on rough terrain that cannot be accessed for ground baiting;
- Negotiating and developing partnerships with DBCA, local Shires, and other key stakeholders; and
- Pastoral stations that make airstrips available for the aerial programs to use, along with providing meals and overnight accommodation for the pilots, and ground staff during various declared pest programs including aerial baiting, LFH, and weed control.

Over and above the volunteer contribution made by CRBA leaseholders is the additional finance costs of managing the state's pests with land managers undertaking their control programs (including operation of aircraft such as helicopters and planes), providing meat for baiting programs and even fuel for contractors.

Partnership Summary

The CRBA continues to work with DBCA to gain support, assistance, and access for LPMTs to undertake control of declared pests on their land tenures. Through internal changes within the DBCA offices the CRBA works with access to a large number of properties have been removed, with no known control of the state's declared pests being undertaken. Thankfully, the CRBA has been able to continue to work with DBCA to undertake a much-needed aerial baiting program in the Kennedy Range National Park (not including large tracts of ex-pastoral lands now under Exclusive Native Title possession). This national park is a known wild dog hotspot for the region and the impacts of this program no longer occurring would be detrimental to the region's biodiversity.

Without access to DBCA-managed lands, the management of pests across the region will be difficult and have significant impacts on neighbouring pastoral lands.

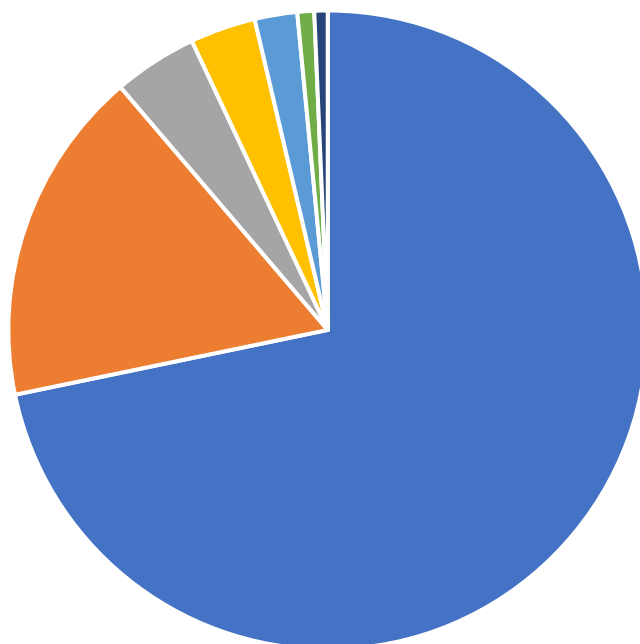
The CRBA continues to welcome our relationship with Rangelands NRM with whom we work on projects to assist in the conservation of the World Heritage Areas within our region. Through this relationship, we have worked hard to minimise the impacts of LFH on the river systems that feed into these areas.

Our long-standing relationship with the Shires of Upper Gascoyne and Murchison sees the CRBA able to provide key services to those landholders within those areas to ensure that the impacts are declared pests as managed within our limited capacities.

The CRBA also appreciates the ongoing role of S7 Retailer's Carnarvon Pest Control and Elders Carnarvon.

Further appreciation from the CRBA needs to go to the Shires of Carnarvon, Murchison, and Upper Gascoyne for the storage and ongoing running costs of the CRBA bait meat freezers within their depots.

2022/2023 Operational Income



- Declared Pest Rates Account *
- Wild Dog Action Plan 2 **
- Shire of Upper Gascoyne
- Rangelands NRM
- DPA from other Sources
- Shire of Murchison
- Other Income
- Bank Interest Received

2022/2023 Operational Income (excluding GST):	
Declared Pest Rates Account *	\$ 843,891.00
Wild Dog Action Plan 2 **	\$ 200,000.00
Shire of Upper Gascoyne	\$ 50,000.00
Rangelands NRM	\$ 39,000.00
DPA from other Sources	\$ 25,333.29
Shire of Murchison	\$ 10,000.00
Other Income	\$ 7,939.98
Bank Interest Received	
Total Operating Income	\$ 1,176,164.27

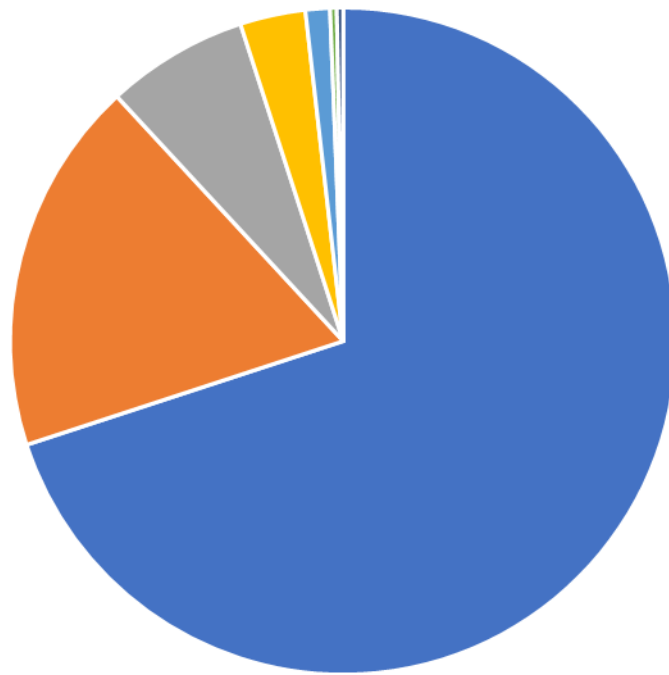
* DPA income breakdown is as follows:

DPIRD matching CF appropriation	\$ 385,315.90
Declared Pest Rate paid by Pastoralists	\$ 298,575.00
CRBA drawdown of reserve funds held by DPIRD	\$ 160,000.10
	\$ 843,891.00

** R4R Funding covers 1.5 FTE at current LPMT contractor rates, all other costs (equipment, chemicals, insurances, baits, traps, administration & management) are funded by the CRBA.

Declared Pest Payment Rate for 2022/23: **90.31%**

2022 /2023 Operational Expenses



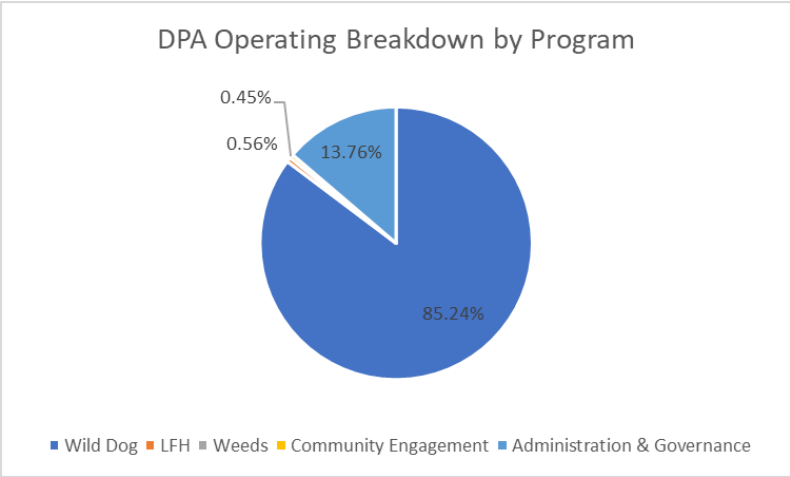
- Declared Pest Rates Account
- Wild Dog Action Plan 2 (R4R)
- Other
- Rangelands NRM LFH
- State NRM - WONS
- Rangelands NRM Gnaraloo
- AWI

2022/2023 Operating Expenses (excluding GST):

Declared Pest Rates Account	\$	771,373.15
Wild Dog Action Plan 2 (R4R)	\$	200,000.00
Other	\$	76,031.78
Rangelands NRM LFH	\$	35,000.00
State NRM - WONS	\$	13,081.00
Rangelands NRM Gnaraloo	\$	3,570.00
AWI	\$	3,399.19

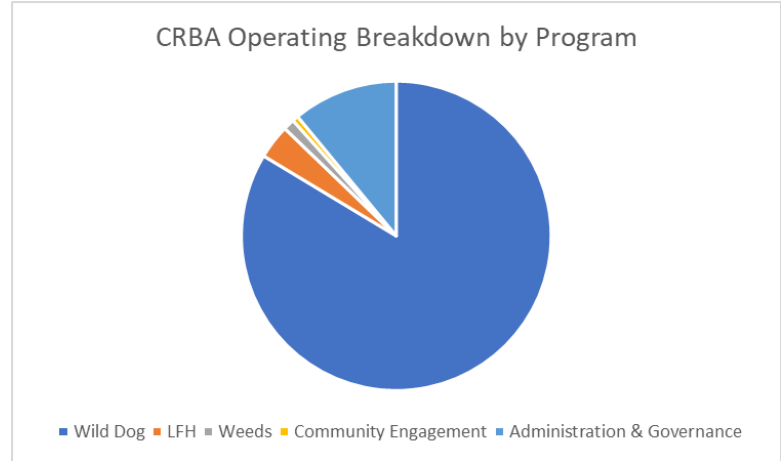
Total Operating Expenses	\$	1,102,455.12
Deficit for 2022/2023	\$	73,709.15

All CRBA surpluses are committed to ongoing projects.



DPA Operating Expenses (excluding GST):		%
Wild Dog	\$ 657,480.04	85.24%
LFH	\$ 4,285.00	0.56%
Weeds		
Community Engagement	\$ 3,486.00	0.45%
Administration & Governance	\$ 106,122.11	13.76%

Total Operating Expenses	\$ 771,373.15	100.00%
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CRBA Operating Expenses (excluding GST):		%
Wild Dog	\$ 922,081.82	83.64%
LFH	\$ 39,285.00	3.56%
Weeds	\$ 13,081.00	1.19%
Community Engagement	\$ 6,885.19	0.62%
Administration & Governance	\$ 121,122.11	10.99%

Total Operating Expenses	\$ 1,102,455.12	100.00%
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The CRBA committee continues to work within the budget to ensure that the impact of increased governance/administration pressures has a limited impact on the group's ground operations. A task that gets more difficult each year.

The CRBA continues to request that the group's DPA debt be monitored and a breakdown provided each quarter to ensure that this figure does not continue to increase to an unsustainable figure. The total balance at the end of 2022/23 being \$129,394.46^ total, \$37,336.10 relating to the 2022/23 operational year. ^ Unconfirmed at time of AGM as quarterly Statements for DPA remain outstanding.

Project Summaries

Rangelands NRM for Small Predator Grant - Gnaraloo

The Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association (CRBA) commenced additional assistance at Gnaraloo Station in October 2019 during the Turtle breeding season. October 2020 – April 2021 being the second-year funding has been received for 10 days. October 2021 – April 2022 is the third funded year for 6 days of assistance during the key breeding season. October 2022 – April 2023 is the fourth funded year for 6 days of assistance during the breeding season.

The CRBA provided additional traps, chemicals, and bait meat to the Licensed Pest Management Technician (LPMT) Adam Robinson.

These additional 6 days of funding saw Adam work a total of 8 days on Gnaraloo Station during the past 7 months. 2 wild dogs were destroyed during this time. Over this time Adam has set traps where incursions have been identified on the pastoral lease.

Observations across Gnaraloo showed:

- Lower movements observed across the lease

Activities that could be undertaken during the 7 months limited the ability to undertake further control activities due to the massive increase in tourists/locals accessing the area above the 6-mile gate. Adam noted access was taking place in previously unvisited sites, with little observing of signage in the area.

125 baits were laid in the area, along with 14 traps. 2 dogs were controlled during the program dates.

Rangelands NRM Large Feral Herbivores

The first program was conducted from the 15th – 17th November 2022. The program took place over 3 days with a total of 30.8 hours flying, focusing on control works.

This service was provided by Coral Coast Helicopter Services, with the team including pilot Justin Borg, and CASA certified marksman, Peter Mahony. The support person, Griffith Gordon, provided a vehicle to save refueling time for the aircraft.

This aerial cull included follow-up treatment for RNRM's World Heritage Area Program. The work was undertaken for the 2022/2023 agreement with Rangelands NRM (PJ22203.2).

Flights took place across Lyndon, Towera, Mangaroon, Maroonah, Wanna, Dooley Downs, and Mt Augustus Stations, with properties providing accommodation for the crew.

Across the entire area covered a total of **249** animals were controlled. Including ferrying time, a total of **30.8** hours were utilised. There were **7** wild dogs controlled and **242** LFH.

Our follow-up program was conducted on the 28th of March 2023 and the 30th of March 2023. The program took place over 2 days with a total of 18.8 hours flying, focusing on control works. Additional work was funded by the Pilbara RBG on the 29th of March, with data but no map provided.

This service was provided by Coral Coast Helicopter Services, with the team including pilot Justin Borg, and CASA certified marksman, Peter Mahony. The support person, Jake Donald, provided a vehicle to save refueling time for the aircraft.

This aerial cull included Initial treatment for RNRM's World Heritage Area Program and initial and follow-up treatment for RNRM's Mallee fowl Program. The work was undertaken for 2022/2023 agreement with Rangelands NRM (PJ22203.1).

Flights took place across Lyndon, Towera, Wanna, Dooley Downs, and Mt Augustus Stations.

Across the entire area covered a total of **115** animals were controlled. Including ferrying time, a total of **20.8** hours were flown. This program also includes some work alongside PRBG which saw an additional **226** LFH over two properties.

The CRBA committee would like to thank Lyndon Station and Mt Augustus for providing accommodation during both programs for the team.

Through this relationship with Rangelands NRM and funding received since its inception in 2018, the CRBA has been able to control a total of **4,251** large feral herbivores at a cost of just over \$4949 per animal.

Wild Dog Action Plan Funding

This program provided funding for a total of **350** days of LPMT time with the CRBA using this towards two additional full 200-day contracts and DPA funding providing the shortfall in funding for these contracts, along with day-to-day overheads.

The two contractors control a total of **195** wild dogs, **5** foxes, **7** LFH, and **22** feral cats. These contractors cover those small stock properties and surrounding government-managed lands that the CRBA has access to. These LPMTs received a total of **23** complaints relating to wild dogs and reported observing stock attacks on **39** occasions.

Funding through the Wild Dog Action Plan (WDAP) has been confirmed through to 2024/25, with the expectation of a new plan being developed during this time. The CRBA continues to work with DPIRD to ensure security or even changes to how this funding is allocated.

Signed:



Date: 20th November 2023

Ross Collins

Chairman

Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association Inc.

5. AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC

ABN 98 325 203 509

**Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023**

**WESTWOOD
ACCOUNTANTS**

ABN 74 420 909 329
128 Chapman Road
GERALDTON WA 6530

Phone: 08 9964 1941
Email: admin@westwood.com.au

CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC
ABN 98 325 203 509

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Detailed Profit and Loss Statement

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CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC

ABN 98 325 203 509

Committee Members Statement

The committee members of the Association declare that :

1. the financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Associations Incorporations Act 2015 and give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the year ended on that date ;
2. in the committee members opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee members.

Dated: 20/11/2023

Chairman



CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC

ABN 98 325 203 509

Independent Auditor's Report

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC (the association), which comprises the Statement by Members of the Committee, the Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2023, a summary of significant accounting policies and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2023 and [of] its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2015.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the association to meet the requirements of Associations Incorporation Act 2015. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report

The committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2015 and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Signed on : 28 September 2023



Kevin Cassidy, Institute of Public Accountants IPA
Westwood Accountants
Geraldton

CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC

ABN 98 325 203 509

Detailed Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023
		\$
Current Assets		
Cash Assets		
CRBA - DPA/R4R (6577)		108,572
CRBA One off funding/grants (6486)		11,169
CRBA - Contingency/reserved (4964)		197,225
		<u>316,965</u>
Current Tax Assets		
GST clearing		27,164
		<u>27,164</u>
Total Current Assets		<u>344,130</u>
Total Assets		<u>344,130</u>
Net Assets		<u>344,130</u>
 Members' Funds		
Reserves		
Accumulated funds		344,130
Total Members' Funds		<u>344,130</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC

ABN 98 325 203 509

Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2023

2023

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Income

DBCA - Baiting	2,997
DPIRD - DPA CRBA held funds	160,000
DPIRD - DPA matching \$	385,316
DPIRD - DPA rates	298,575
DPIRD - DPA rates from other RBG	5,184
DPIRD - Wild dog action plan R4R	200,000
Rangelands NRM	39,000
Shire contributions	10,000
Shire of Upper Gascoyne	50,000
Other income	7,940
DPIRD - DPA - Other	17,152
Total income	1,176,164

Expenses**Declared Pest Account**

- DPA LPMT - North West Carnarvon	118,405
- DPA LPMT - Shark Bay / South Carnarvon	11,937
- DPA LPMT - North Murchison	69,825
- DPA LPMT - North East Carnarvon	123,120
- DPA LPMT - Days from previous year	8,972
- DPA LPMT - South Murchison	12,350
- DPA LPMT - Safety & Misc	4,563
- DPA - 1080 Landholders	3,060
- DPA - Signage & Air Charter	9,634
- DPA - Traps	18,482
- DPA - Oats	6,293
- DPA - Strychnine	8,914
- DPA - Bait Ground	87,287
- DPA - Baiting Advertising	1,441
- DPA - Baiting Supplies	869
- DPA - Rack Maintenance	2,774
- DPA - Administration & Overheads	(15,000)
- DPA - Executive Officer	62,955

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC

ABN 98 325 203 509

Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023
	\$
- DPA - Executive Officer Travel & Office	3,729
- DPA - Accountancy XERO	630
- DPA - Accounting fees Audit	4,000
- DPA - RCP	380
- DPA - Governance	33
- DPA - Website/Communications	1,807
- DPA - Meekatharra RBA (Mt Clere)	8,026
- DPA - Insurance	33,776
- DPA - Community Engagement	443
- DPA - Meetings	1,236
- DPA - WHS Implementation	10,538
- DPA SUG LPMT - South Upper Gascoyne	65,320
- DPA - SUG LPMT North Upper Gascoyne	100,005
- DPA - SUG LPMT Safety & Misc	1,285
- DPA - SUG - LFH	4,285
	<hr/>
	771,373
WDAP	
- WDAP2 LPMT - Shark Bay / South Carnarvon	102,865
- WDAP2 LPMT - South Murchison	97,135
	<hr/>
	200,000
Rangelands NRM LFH	
- Rangelands NRM Donkey - Helicopter Hire	31,880
- Rangelands NRM Donkey - Ammunition	1,770
- Rangelands NRM Donkey - Wages per Day	1,350
	<hr/>
	35,000
Rangelands NRM Gnaraloo	
- Rangelands NRM Gnaraloo - LPMT	3,570
	<hr/>
	3,570
State NRM WONS 21/22	
- WONS - Field Day	13,081
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	13,081
AWI	
- AWI - LPMT Training	2,464
- AWI - Landholder Training	935
	<hr/>
	3,399
Other Funding Sources	

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC

ABN 98 325 203 509

Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023
	\$
- Other Sources	15,000
- Other Sources - LPMT Research	16,032
- Other Sources - SUG Specific	45,000
	<u>76,032</u>
Total expenses	<u>1,102,455</u>
Surplus for the year	<u>73,709</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC

ABN 98 325 203 509

Declared Pest Account Funding

For the year ended 30 June 2023

DPA Opening Funds 1 July 2022	\$ 8,563.71
DPA Income	\$843,891.00
DPA Income (Other)	\$ 25,333.29
Total Available DPA	\$877,788.00
Less DPA expenses	\$771,373.15
Remaining DPA 30 June 2023	\$106,414.85
Q1 2023/2024 Allocated Funds	\$ 88,000.00
Carryover Committed Funds	\$ 18,195.90
Carryover Uncommitted Funds	\$ 218.95
